Date Entered 26-DEC-99 Date Updated 24-FEB-04

NOAA Restoration Center

San Gregorio Stream Bank Stabilization

Project Description

The objectives of this project are to re-establish stream alignment to pre-1982 flood conditions and stabilize reconstructed meander using native material revetment and native riparian plantings to protect and enhance steelhead trout, coho salmon, tidewater goby, and California red legged frog habitat in lower San Gregorio Creek.

Project Nickname	San Gregorio Stream Bank (NFWF-99)		
Location	San Gregorio, San Mateo County, CA, 94019 SWR		
Program	Community-based Restoration	**Congressional District**	CA 8, CA 12
Lat, Long Coordinates	-122.3946, 37.3243	**Land Ownership**	Private
Implementation Start Date	02-OCT-98	**Implementation End Date**	30-OCT-00
River Basin	San Gregorio Creek	**HUC**	18050005
Geographic Identifier	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanct	**USGS Topo Quad**	San Gregorio
Project Status	Implementation Complete	**Project Type**	Restoration
Project Status Description			
Landmark	off of La Honda Rd.		
Number of Volunteers	20	**Volunteer Hours**	200
Volunteer Description			
Proposed Project?	**Project Closed?**	Y	**FY Completed** 2001

Habitat Information

Type	Acres Created	Acres Re-established	Acres Rehabilitated	Acres Enhanced	Acres Protected	Stream Miles	# Plants/ Animals
stream/river channel		2.5					
riparian zone		5					

Species Information

Commonname	Genus	Species	Population Name	NMFS Status	Species Type
Salmon, coho	*Oncorhynchus*	*kisutch*	Central California Coast	Threatened	animal
Trout, steelhead	*Oncorhynchus*	*mykiss*	?	?	animal
Frog, red legged	*Rana*	*aurora*			animal
Goby, tidewater	*Eucyclogobius*	*newberryi*			animal

Partners

San Mateo County Resource Conservation District

Restoration Techniques

erosion control structures
in-stream placement of large woody debris/ structure
riparian planting
removal of non-native/invasive species

Contacts

Christina Fisher

San Mateo County Resource Conservation District
785 Main Street, Suite C

Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
Phone: 650-726-0494 Fax:
smcrcd@sirius.com Local

David Landsman
Restoration Ecologist
NOAA Fisheries
777 Sonoma Ave., Rm 325

Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Phone: 707-578-8518 Fax: 707-578-3435
David.Landsman@noaa.gov NOAA

NOAA Involvement

source of funding

Monitoring Information

Characteristic	Type
Vegetation species presence/absence	Structural
Vegetation species composition	Structural
Turbidity	Functional

Additional Info

water quality- add parameters

Funding Information

Funding Mechanism	FY Awarded	NOAA Contribution	Partnership Contributio	Total Partnership Contribution
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	1999	$18,000	$0	$18,000
	TOTALS	$18,000	$0	$18,000

Other Non-Federal $ $0 **Other Federal $** $112,309 **Total Project Cost** $130,309

Funding Recipient San Mateo County Resource Conservation District

Funding Comments Michelle Pico (NFWF) gave me the 18k dollar amount. She said those funds come from 2 coop agreements.

Project Abstract

The San Gregorio Creek is a tributary to the Pacific Ocean and drains a watershed of approximately 51 miles. Located 25 miles south of San Francisco, it lies on the San Mateo County coast and supports steelhead trout and, historically, coho salmon. Tidewater goby, California red legged frog, and the San Francisco garter snake are also present in the watershed, which is designated Class Two for the purpose of coho recovery. Land usage within the watershed includes cattle grazing, agriculture, residential use, and water diversion. During the storms of 1982, a large log dam diverted the San Gregorio Creek out of its channel and through adjacent agricultural fields at a site just west of the town of San Gregorio. This has contributed more then 16,000 cubic yards of sediment to the San Gregorio Lagoon. In the San Gregorio Creek, unstable slopes and gully development in the upper reaches of the stream have led to debris jams and the formation of mid-channel gravel bars in the lower reaches. The often fully vegetated bars are indicators of imbalance in the stream's sediment supply and transport relationship.

The Restoration Center, within NMFS' Office of Habitat Conservation, has partnered with the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District to restore an area of the San Gregorio located 0.5 miles inland from its confluence with the Pacific Ocean. The stream in this reach has moved across its floodplain and created a new channel through adjacent agricultural lands. Four acres of productive land was already lost to this process. The restoration re-established the stream alignment to its pre-1982 flood conditions as well as stabilized the reconstructed meander using native riparian plant material. Native plant material was provided by a nursery located on the site that is maintained by the property owners to support current and future restoration efforts. The eradication of non-native tree species was another objective of the project. Several blue gum eucalyptus trees were removed and replaced with native riparian and upland species. The project eliminated a significant source of sedimentation in the lower reaches of San Gregorio Creek and the San Gregorio Lagoon. The use of large woody debris within the stream and riparian vegetation helped lower water temperatures, resulting in the addition of instream habitat and water quality. Upon completion, the 300 acre property will remain in agriculture for the foreseeable future to grow organic crops.